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ACCIS newsletter

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Steering Committee meets in New York

A meeting of the ACCIS Steering Committee took place from 20-21 February 1990 at the headquarters of the United Nations in New York.

In the absence of Mr. Jacques Lemoine the Committee was chaired by Mr. P. Goran Ohlin. It discussed various aspects of the ACCIS work programme. It endorsed the work plan of the Working Group on Electronic Records Management and expressed support for the Technical Panel on the United Nations Telecommunication Network (TP/NET).

The Committee also heard a report from the Chairman of the Technical Panel on Computer Security (TP/SEC) on plans for the first meeting of the group in April. The Committee also requested more information on the proposal put forward by the Working Group on Database Dissemination and stated that it would make a final decision on the proposed work programme when it obtains this information.

The Committee congratulated the ACCIS Secretariat on the publication of the *Register of development activities 1988* and expressed its appreciation to staff in all organizations who supplied the data for its compilation.

Two new ACCIS publications available

The *ACCIS guide to United Nations information sources on international trade and development finance*, third in a series of ACCIS guides on information sources within organizations of the United Nations system on issues of importance for the global community, was published in February. It focuses on the main, as well as less obvious, sources of United Nations information on international trade and development finance, including databases and printed publications. It also provides descriptions of each organization, its overall responsibilities, its specific responsiblities in international trade and development finance and its structural units involved in this area. Addresses of select organizations outside of the United Nations system which produce information in these subject areas and a general index are also given.

Management of electronic records: Issues and guidelines was also published in February. This ACCIS report comprises products aimed at assisting United Nations organizations in addressing the challenges presented by the new information environment: a proposed set of GUIDELINES for managing electronic archives and records; a SURVEY of the use and status of electronic media in the organizations; a discussion of information technology STANDARDS as they related to electronic record-keeping; and a GLOSSARY of terms that figure prominently in those domains. This publication is intended to help United Nations organizations - and possibly others - to devise their own methods and procedures for coping with the impact of new technologies on archives and records management.

Copies of these two reports at the cost of USD15 each are available from United Nations Sales Offices in Geneva and New York.

Summary of TP/REM report available in French

An unofficial French translation which consists of a summary of the ACCIS publication *Management of electronic records: Issues and guidelines* is available while supplies last from the ACCIS Secretariat.

Current ACCIS publications

The following is a list of available ACCIS publications.

Available from United Nations Sales and Publications, United Nations, New York NY 10017, USA and United Nations Sales and Publications, United Nations, Palais des Nations, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland:

* *ACCIS guide to United Nations information sources on the environment*. New York : United Nations, 1988. ISBN 92-1-100339-3. ISSN 1011-3746. (United Nations publication Sales No. GV.E.87.0.6.). Price: USD15.

* *ACCIS guide to United Nations information sources on food and agriculture*. Rome : Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 1987. ISBN 92-5-102604-1. ISSN 1011-3746. Price: USD15.

* *Directory of United Nations serial publications. New York : United Nations, 1988-* . ISBN 92-1-100337-7. ISSN 1011-2952. (United Nations publication Sales No. GV.E.87.0.3.). Price: USD30.

* *Register of development activities of the United Nations system 1988*. New York : United Nations, 1989 - . ISBN 92-1-100347-4. ISSN 1012-7666. (United Nations publication Sales No. GV.E.89.0.10). Price: USD40.

* *Register of development activities of the United Nations system 1987*. New York: United Nations, 1988 - . ISBN 92-1-100341-5. ISSN 1012-7666. (United Nations publication Sales No. GV.E.88.0.4). Price: USD30.

* *ACCIS guide to United Nations information sources on trade and development finance*. New York: United Nations publication Sales No. GV.E.86.02).

* *Managment of electronic records: Issues and guidelines*. New York: United Nations, 1990. ISBN 92-1-100348-2. (United Nations publication Sales No. GV.E.89.0.15). Price: USD15.

Available from the ACCIS Secretariat, Palais des Nations, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland (free of charge while stocks last):

* *Directory of United Nations system databases on Non-governmental Organizations*. New York: United Nations, 1988. ISBN 92-1-100343-1.

* *Providing access to United Nations databases: A guide for United Nations database producers*. Geneva: ACCIS, 1988. ISBN 92-1-100342-3.

* *ACCIS newsletter*. Geneva : ACCIS, 1983 - . ISSN 0252-3133. Bimonthly.

In preparation:

* *Directory of United Nations databases and information systems*. 2nd edition. (May 1990)

Who serves as an ACCIS focal point?

The following is a list of focal points in the organizations which comprise ACCIS:

J. Richard Foran, United Nations; A. Bloomberg, *UNICEF*; J. Gurunlian, *UNCTAD*; L. Wallis, *UNDP*; A. T. Brough, *UNEP*; H. Kimata, *UNFPA*; D. A. Priso, *UNITAR*; J. Holliman, *UNU*; (Vacant), *ECA*; S. Apelt, *ECE*; C. Evangelista, *ECLAC*; R. Siegel, *ESCAP*; S. Tarbah, *ESCWA*; G. Rao, *UNCHS/Habitat*; M. J. Floret, *UNDRO*; S. Molander, *UNHCR*; S. Moraldo-Dragotto, *WFC*; A. Th. Wittveen, *ICJ*; F. Jaffré, *UNRISD*; C. d'Assier de Boisredon, *ITC*; K. E. Svahn, *WFP*; K. Wild, *ILO*; E. F. Akyuz, *FAO*; J. Tocatlian, *UNESCO*; J. Northcut, *ICAO*; S. H. Mandil, *WHO*; I. Scott, *World Bank*; A. Shapiro, *IFC*; J. Soromenho-Ramos, *IMF*; F. Cacciatore, *UPU*; L. Goelzer, *ITU*; J. Rasmussen, *WMO*; S. Abboud, *IMO*; G. A. Ledakis, *WIPO*; B. S. Diouf, *IFAD*; H. Marin Guzman, *UNIDO*; I. H. Marchesi, *IAEA*; and J. Vigogne, *GATT*.

Information technology

Romania seeks information

The National Institute for Information and Documentation in Bucharest, Romania seeks help in obtaining primary information sources or any other documents which would be useful to the further development of the country. Contact: National Institute for Information and Documentation, Str. Cosmonautilor 27-29, Sector 1, 70074/70141 Bucharest, Romania.

Source: Telex to ACCIS from the Provisional Committee of the National Salvation Front.

Japanese funding will help developing countries

UNESCO's suggestion that scanning journals onto CD/ROM would be ideal for disseminating technical literature to developing countries with limited telecommunications has caught the attention of the Japanese. Japanese government and industry are making funds available for a document delivery service for developing countries on the CD-ROM technology of the ADONIS consortium. ADONIS is a consortium of publishers offering the full-text of journals on CD/ROM.

Source: *Information World Review*, No. 40, 1989.

ARCOME facilitates information flow

ARCOME, a database produced by IDATE (Institut de l'Audiovisuel et des Télécommunications in Europe - France), facilitates information flow and collaboration among European researchers active in the communications field. It also assists international organizations in need of experts in specific fields for their communications projects.
At present, the database provides information on more than 200 organizations, public or private research centres, groups working for companies which are not necessarily research orientated, 400 researchers and consultants, and 2,000 publications (since 1980).

ARCOME is available online on the ECHO (European Commission Host Organisation) host. Details on structure and contents, the availability of show formats and information on how to conduct a search in ARCOME are available online with the command: INFO ARCOME. ARCOME is supported by the European Economic Community (EEC) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). For further information, contact European Community Host Organisation (ECHO), POB 2373, L-1023 Luxembourg (TP + 352 48 80 41; TELEX 2181).

Source: *ECHO News*, No. 3, 1988.

Agricultural database available

The bibliographic database CAB Abstracts (CABA) covers agriculture and related areas of applied biology. It includes more than 2 million records from agricultural literature and related areas of applied biology from 1972 to the present. The following areas are covered: agricultural economics and trade, crop production and protection (pest control), agricultural chemicals (pesticides, fertilizers), animal sciences and production, buildings and machinery, biotechnology, forestry and other related areas. The database is updated monthly with approximately 12,000 citations.

CABA is produced by CAB International (formerly Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux) Centre, Wallingford

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(UK) with agencies in Commonwealth countries, and is available online via STN International by JICST in Tokyo (Japan). For further information, contact STN Help Desk in Karlsruhe, Federal Republic of Germany at 49/7247/808-555, via electronic mailbox STNmail (id: HLPDESKK) or by letter at STN International, c/o FIZ Karlsruhe, P.B. 2465, D-7500 Karlsruhe 1 Federal Republic of Germany.

Source: STN International Press Release 1-90, February 1990.

Help in avoiding industrial accidents

A personal computer based package has been developed to help make improved decisions on the environmental assessment of process industries with regard to risks. Initially undertaken to help in screening proposals of large process industries in the state of Maharashtra, India, this package allows reorganization of layout to minimize the risks in an interactive mode.

The process industry is seen as consisting of various clearly identifiable "units". The programme quantifies the economic damage and societal risks associated with each unit due to fire, explosion and toxic releases. The economic damage is quantified in terms of Maximum Probable Property Damage (MPPD) and the societal risks are quantified in terms of Fatal Accident Rate (FAR). The layout of the units can be optimized in terms of other information in the neighbourhood area to minimize both MPPD and FAR.

The package developed in dBASE III™ is menu driven and has full interactive facilities of data entry, validation, help and graphics. The layout routine in the package allows the user to mimic the map co-ordinates to show various plant positions, next plot boundary and various utilities, such as schools, hospitals, public housing, public roads, utility roads, offices, control room, and other hazardous installations.

The package acronymed as "MINRISK" is under continuous development and many more features are expected to be added in the future.

For more information contact: Dr. Prasad M. Modak, Indian Institute of Technology, Powai, Bombay 400076, India.

X terminals save money

The personal computer (pc) is facing a new rival in the X terminal. The X terminal, which is a step back to when offices were controlled by central mainframe or minicomputer, does not actually compute; it is the workstation of a central computer. The computing is done by the central computer. However, like the personal computer, it allows users to have the ease of multiple "windows" and a mouse.

The X terminal also displays pie charts and photographic images. In 1990, X terminals will be manufactured by two large computer companies, International Business Machines (IBM) and Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC). Currently, these terminals are produced only by small start-up companies. The leading manufacturer is Network Computing Devices Inc. of Mountain View, California.

The most important aspects of X terminals are their low cost (less than advanced personal computers because they have no electrotechnical parts and require less power) and the fact that they can be controlled from a central location. But, according to critics, these new terminals are subject to the same problems, such as slowdown in response time, that have plagued computing in which a large central computer is host to other standard computers.

Source: *The New York Times*, 3 January 1990.

CSA produces a practical application of multidisc searching of CD-ROM databases

Cambridge Scientific Abstracts (CSA) has combined new user software with a stacked multidisc drive unit to produce the CSA MultiDisc Drive System. This system makes searching large database and multiple years easier.

The system is now available to users of the US National Library of Medicine's Medline database. It will eventually handle other CD-ROM databases that CSA produces.

For further information, contact Microinfo, P.O. Box 3, Omega Park, Alton, Hamps GU34 2PG England (TP + 0420 86848).

Source: *Online Review*, Vol. 13, No. 3, 1989.

Photocopy facimiles before they fade

It's wise to photocopy facsimiles which are produced on thermally sensitive paper and retain the copies as "originals". These facsimiles can fade in as little as three months if stored in polythene wallets or envelopes and in ten years if stored among other papers, in paper envelopes or cardboard folders. The thermally sensitive paper is affected by an ingredient in the constitution of polythene.

(Source: *Computers & Libraries*, Vol. 2, No. 6, February 1989)

UN systems

Market analysis and restrictions on trade

The Software for Market Analysis and Restrictions on Trade (SMART) was recently developed by the International Economics Department (IEC) of the World Bank and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to strengthen the negotiating capacities of developing countries. The system provides data and software that can be used in a personal computer for the analysis of conditions of access into external markets. The SMART system also facilities the

participation of developing countries in international trade negotiations, such as the Uruguay Round.

Users can load and manage country-specific trade, tariff and non-tariff barrier data. They can browse data, create requests for aggregates, produce reports and simulate effects of tariff liberalization on trade patterns. Market data are currently available for most country members of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Mexico, Korea and Hong Kong. New markets will be added. The system provides SMART online help, overview and tutorial facilities.
SMART is now being used by over twenty developing countries. Further development of the system, as well as dissemination and training, is being undertaken with UNDP financial assistance. Its use is restricted to governments, the research institutes designated by them and international institutions. Contact: Samuel Laird, IEC, The World Bank, 1818 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20433, or Rene Vossenaar, International Trade Programmes, UNCTAD, Palais des Nations, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland.

Using hand-held computers for health data

The WHO/ISS joint project with the National University of Singapore on the use of hand-held computers (HHC) for health data capture started in July 1987 and ended in May 1988. Three models of HHC were tested and evaluated and the results from field trials demonstrated the following advantages over the use of recording forms:

- Problems associated with forms such as carrying - or losing - them are eliminated. Data collection with HHC now involves only a hand-held machine and a master form for reference.

- As data captured on a HHC can be uploaded to a microcomputer for direct processing, there are no transcription errors associated with data coding and keyboard entries of coded information. It also substantially reduces data throughput time.

- Incorporating a "question-branching" facility eliminates errors when the person filling in the form omits a reply. Failure to skip questions that are inapplicable often causes data errors on conventional recording forms.

WHO/ISS and the NUS, Singapore, have recently agreed to updating the study - with recent HHC products - and to enchancing it for further uses of HHC in the health services, e.g. for simple semi-expert systems. For more information on the project please contact Dr. S.H. Mandil, ISS, World Health Organization, 20 avenue Appia, 1211 Geneva 27 (TP + 41 22 791 2426; TELEX 415 416; FAX 7910746).

WMO will play important role in natural disaster reduction

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) will play an important part in the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR) and in internationally co-ordinated responses to environmental emergencies, such as nuclear accidents. IDNDR was designated by the General Assembly of the United Nations to begin on 1 January 1990. WMO's Global Telecommunications System will be used to disseminate rapid and relevant information on nuclear accidents to the world. The system also permits weather, hydrological and other atmospheric information to be transmitted around the world within time ranges of three to four minutes (for example, from Vienna to Tokyo). WMO's role in the IDNDR will be to strengthen international, regional and national warning systems for tropical cyclones, other severe storms and floods.

UPU looks at postal electronic mail

In response to the increasing introduction of postal electronic mail services, the Universal Postal Union (UPU) has been involved in efforts aimed at influencing the harmonization work being carried out in this area by telecommunications administrations within the International Telegraph and Telephone Consultative Committee (CCITT) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

In order that the wishes of all postal administrations could be officially submitted to the CCITT (only postal administrations providing both postal and telecommunications services have a say in the committee), UPU established Sub-Working Party (SWP) 503 in 1986.

The first symposium on postal electronic mail services was held in October 1988. Its chief aims were: to sum up developments on the basis of the findings of a questionnaire sent to all UPU member administrations; to provide information to other countries interested in introducing these services; to facilitate contacts between experts on this subject, and to compile a list of problems in this area with a view to submitting proposals to the 1989 UPU Congress.

Replies to the questionnaire which was sent to all UPU member administrations showed that many national postal administrations have already introduced a postal electronic mail service, or are thinking about doing so.

Other administrations have been unable to do so because the investment needed is too great. Additional findings were that, in some countries, comparable services are being provided by private companies or by the national telecommunications administration.

It should be noted that, in this area, "electronic mail" has referred almost exclusively to facsimile-based services until recently. However, postal administrations are increasingly offering "text-based" services. This refers to messages posted through the user's terminal equipment, such as a telex or teletex terminal or a communicating personal computer. The task of the postal service in this area is normally to receive, print, put in an envelope and deliver messages to addressees who do not have terminal equipment.

Postal electronic mail services are a response both to the threat to the post's traditional market posed by new telecommunications services, and to an identified market demand for especially fast transmission of written messages. Postal administrations must design the postal electronic mail services by mutual agreement to ensure international compatibility of national services; UPU wants to help in this process by regulating these services in the international arena.

For more information, contact Union Postale Universelle, Weltpostrasse 4, 3000 Berne 15, Switzerland.

New database on women in industry available

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) has produced a new database on women in industry which aims at opening new opportunities for them.

The UNIDO database collects information on employment, skills levels, remuneration, small-scale business ownership and other such indicators on women in industry. The plan is to apply this data to programmes dealing with small-scale enterprises, the development of appropriate technologies and human resource development, which can help to increase the participation and competitiveness of women at all production levels.

Source: *Development Forum*, Vol. XVIII, No. 1.

Donors pledge support for African meteorological centre

In September 1989 at a meeting at the headquarters of the World Meteorological Organization in Geneva, Switzerland, donors pledged support for an African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD).

The objectives of the Centre are to contribute to socio-economic development and self-sufficiency in food, water and energy in African countries through the use of meteorological information and to establish an African-wide climate and weather watch. This will help to moderate the effects of droughts, floods and tropical cyclones and to conserve the use and management of the natural resources and environment of the continent.

Exchanging scientific bibliographies

COMNET (International Network of Documentation Centres on Communication Research and Policies) was launched at a meeting of experts convened by UNESCO in Montreal in 1969, and its first centres were operating by the early 1970s. Its overall objective is to produce and exchange, on a permanent basis, scientific bibliographies in the field of mass communication. The network is informally organized and the production and distribution of bibliographical studies is carried out voluntarily and autonomously by its members, who agree to follow a number of common norms which relate to language, indexation, preparation of abstracts and information sharing.

COMNET is organized primarily at a regional and subregional level. The position of the co-ordinator rotates; the current co-ordinator is NORDICOM, covering the Nordic countries. Currently, a study of the progressive automation of COMNET centres is in progress, with financial assistance provided by the Canadian authorities. A significant activity now underway, co-ordinated by the International Federation for Information and Documentation (FID), The Hague, is the revision of the UNESCO Mass Communication Thesaurus, which was last issued in 1982 and is now considered obsolescent by many members. The revision of the Thesaurus, which is used as a principal indexing tool by COMNET, should be completed in the near future. For more information, contact Mr. Alan Hancock, UNESCO, Sector of Culture and Communication, 7 place de Fontenoy, 75700 Paris France.

New publications

Publications are mentioned here in order to bring them to the attention of interested readers; their inclusion in this section does not constitute an endorsement by ACCIS

Keeping developing countries abreast of opportunities

A calendar of meetings, fairs, exhibitions and conferences is put out by the Industrial Techology Development Division of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) to inform entrepreneurs, investors, industrialists, planners and technical personnel in developing countries of ways to get information on equipment and on technologies.

UNIDO advises that persons intending to visit the events that are listed should confirm the details with the respective organizers. The events selected should be of practical interest to decision makers in developing countries.

The calendar is available free of charge and can be requested from the Editor, Calendar of Meetings, Fairs, Exhibitions and Conferences, Industrial Tehcnology Monitors Unit, Room D1939, Vienna International Centre, P.O. Box 300, A-1400 Vienna, Austria (TP + 26 310; Telex 135612; Cable UNIDO VIENNA).

A uniform approach in preparing bibliographic records

This Occasional Paper, No. 13 in the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions of Library Associations (IFLA) Universal Bibliographic Control and International MARC Programme (UBCIM) series, provides an overview of the progress made internationally in harmonizing cataloguing rules and in working towards a uniform approach in the preparation of bibliographic records.

Standard practices in the preparation of bibliographic records, written by Dorothy Anderson, is a revision of Occasional Paper No. 9 in the same series. It contains additional background information on international projects in this domain and on the international standardization process. Also incorporated are comments on aspects of information technology currently influencing librarians' ideas about catalogues, about readers' needs, and about the ways in which bibliographic records may be prepared and exchanged in the future. The paper (ISBN

0-903043-53-X) is available, at a price of GBP12 or USD26, from: IFLA UBCIM Programme, c/o British Library Bibliographic Services, 2 Sheraton Street, London W1V 4BH, UK.

Managing pests in libraries

The *Study on integrated pest management for libraries and archives* was prepared by UNESCO for the IFLA International Office for Preservation and Conservation at the Library of Congress. The work lists the major pests of libraries and archives and describes their habits and life histories. It also deals with the recognition of the damage caused by such pests, the management of pests in libraries and archives and the application of integrated pest management in such situations.

This publication (PGI-88/WS/20) is available free from UNESCO, Division of the General Information Programme, Office of Information Programmes and Services, UNESCO, 7 place de Fontenoy, 75700 PARIS, France.

Directory provides list of fertilizer-related projects

The ESCAP/FAO/UNIDO Fertilizer Advisory, Information and Development Network for Asia and the Pacific (FADINAP) published in 1989 a *Directory of Fertilizer-related Projects in Asia and the Pacific*. One hundred and twenty projects which were supported by a variety of bilateral and multilateral donors are listed. The projects address policy-making, investigations of raw materials, construction of fertilizer plants, improvement of fertilizer distribution, and training of dealers and extension staff. It is intended to update this directory every two years. For more information, please contact Mrs. Marianne Vespry, Information/Documentation Co-ordinator, FADINAP, ESCAP Agriculture and Rural Development Division, Rajadamnern Avenue, Bangkok, 10200 Thailand.

Proceedings published

The proceedings of the International Council on Archives' Symposium on Current Records has been published as *Management of recorded information: Converging disciplines* (ISBN 3-598-10897-4) and is available through the offices of K.G. SAUR Verlag: Heilmannstrasse - 17, 800 Munchen 71, Gundesrepublik Deutschland (Fax:089-791-0499); 245 West 17th St., New York, NY 10011 USA; 38, rue de Eassano, 75008 Paris, France; Shropshire House, 2 - 10 Capper Street, London, England WC1E6JA (Fax: 01-5804089). The cost of the publication is 68DM; 43CD; or USD36.

Events

1-3 May 1990. National Online Meeting. New York, NY. For information, contact Learned Information, Inc., 143 Old Marlton Pike, Medford, NJ 08055 USA (TP 1 + 609/654-6266; Fax: 609/654-4309).

24-25 May 1990. DOCUMAT'90. Palma de Mallorca. For further information, contact Secretariat of DOCUMAT'90, M. Rosa Caballero, Girona 39, 2.2., 08010 Barcelona, Spain.

28-31 May 1990. FAO/IAEA/UNESCO/UNIDO International Symposium on the Future of Scientific, Technological and Industrial Information Services. Leningrad, USSR. Detailed information may be obtained from appropriate national authorities in Member States or by writing directly to the International Atomic Energy Agency, P.O. Box 100, Vienna International Centre, A-1400 Vienna, Austria.

28-31 May 1990. IAALD (International Association of Agricultural Librarians and Documentalists) 1990 VIII. World Congress. Budapest, Hungary. For further details, contact IAALD VIII. World Congress, Organizing Committee, AGROINFORM, Ms. Virag SIPOS, Budapest, Pf.: 15.H-1253, Hungary.

30 May-June 3 1990. International Association for Social Science Information Service and Technology (IASSIST) 16th Annual Conference. Poughkeepsie, New York, USA. For program details, contact Laura Guy, Data and Program Library Service, 3308 Social Science Building, 1180 Observatory Drive, The University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI 53706 (GUY WISCMACC.BITNET).

5-7 June 1990. EUROINFO 90. Hotel Sheraton, Rome, Italy. For further details, contact The Conference Secretary, Seat Divisione Stet spa, Settore Telematica, Via Aurelio Saffi 18-10138 Torino, Italy (TP + 39 0 11 33301; Fax: 447 29 53; Telex: 21248 Seat I) or The Conference Secretary, Learned Information (Europe) ltd, Woodside-Hinksey Hill, Oxford 0X1 5AU England (TP + 44 0 865-730275; Fax: 736354; Telex: 837704 Inform G).

18 June-13 July. International Workshop on Women, Public Policy and Development: Utilizing Microcomputer Databases. University of Illinois, Urbana, IL, USA. For further information contact: University of Illinois, Department of Agricultural Economics, ATTN: Workshop on Women, Public Policy and Development, 437 Mumford Hall, 1301 W. Gregory Drive, Urbana, IL 61801 (Telex: 206957 INTAGURBA; Fax: 217/333-5538).

19-21 June 1990. ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING '90 Exhibition and Conference. For further details, contact Blenheim House, Ash Hill Drive, Pinner, Middlesex HA5 2AE, United Kingdom.

24-29 June 1990. Fourth International Conference on Geoscience Information. Contact David Reade, Conference Secretary-Treasurer,c/o GEOSCAN Centre, Geological Survey of Canada, 601 Booth Street, Ottawa, Kla OE8 Canada.

17-19 July 1990. OIS (Optical Information Systems) International 1990. Wembley Conference Centre, London, England. For further information, contact Meckler Ltd., Grosvenor Gardens House, Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0BS England (TP + 01 931 9985; Fax: 01 931 8908).

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